MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 OCTOBER 1982

Israel

The prime minister and the deputy foreign minister told the 17 October Cabinet session that the United States accepts the principles proposed by Israel for security arrangements between Israel and Lebanon following an IDF withdrawal, Jerusalem radio reported. However, Israel and the United States still differ on the presence of UN forces in southern Lebanon and over the timing of the PLO withdrawal from the country, the radio noted. Other points of U.S.-Israeli disagreement concern Israel's desire to maintain Foreign Ministry representation in Beirut and its demand for warning stations and reconnaissance overflights, according to MA'ARIV and IDF radio. Nevertheless, in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor asserted that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's talks in Washington were "good discussions in a good atmosphere" and that while differences between Israel and the United States persist, there is no big gap. According to the radio, Meridor denied reports that the Americans have threatened to link U.S. aid to Israel with Israel's willingness to negotiate on President Ronald Reagan's peace plan. He also denied recently reported allegations by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres that Israel threatened to use force against Egypt if the latter broke diplomatic relations because of the war in Lebanon. The radio noted that during his talks in Washington, Foreign Minister Shamir emphasized to the Americans the gravity with which Israel regards the recall of Egypt's ambassador from Tel Aviv.

Citing information "leaked from the White House," the Labor newspaper DAVAR claimed that the U.S. Administration has developed a detailed plan to topple the government of Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The plan, "which is now in very advanced stages," aims at establishing a national unity government headed by former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, DAVAR contended.

Lebanon

Military, Security Situation -- The Syrians again violated the cease-fire on 16 October, wounding an IDF soldier in eastern Lebanon, ITIM reported. However, in a statement broadcast by Damascus television the same day, a Syrian military spokesman accused the Israelis of violating the cease-fire west of Zahlah, using machineguns and tank gunfire.

The previous day, an IDF soldier was killed by a car-bomb explosion near Bhamdun, Jerusalem radio reported citing the IDF spokesman. Voice of Lebanon radio said five other Israelis were wounded in the explosion. A WAFA report cited by Amman radio claimed that Palestinian commandos killed five Israeli soldiers on 16 October near Tyre. While monitored Israeli sources did not mention any such incident that day, Jerusalem radio said two IDF soldiers were wounded by a grenade attack in the area the following evening.

Beirut radio reports on 16 October spoke of "cautious calm" in the 'Alayh region, where Druze and Christian militias had clashed during the week. The radio said up to 12 people were killed and about 60 were wounded in the fighting. The clashes subsided after Israeli troops intervened to separate the warring parties, Jerusalem radio reported. At a meeting chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil, Druze and Phalangist representatives agreed to allow the Lebanese Army into the 'Alayh area and to ban "illegal armed manifestations," a statement broadcast by Beirut radio announced. Although the radio said the Lebanese Army would enter the area on 17 October as soon as the Israelis withdrew from it, Jerusalem radio subsequently noted that the IDF was still maintaining its positions in the Ash-Shuf mountain villages. A Druze spokesman said in remarks broadcast by the radio that the Israelis have promised to continue policing the area for a week, after which they will withdraw in favor of the Lebanese Army.

In Beirut, the Lebanese Army violently dispersed demonstrators who had cut off the road to the airport on 15 October, according to a Defense Ministry statement carried by Beirut radio. Reports by the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio indicated that the protesters were inhabitants of illegally erected buildings which the authorities are now attempting to pull down.

President's UN Visit -- President al-Jumayyil departed Lebanon for the United Nations on 17 October, Beirut radio noted.

UNIFIL Situation -- Lebanon has asked the UN Security Council to renew UNIFIL's mandate for a further 3 months, the Voice of Lebanon reported. Meanwhile, ITIM cited reports by UNIFIL spokesmen that the IDF and UNIFIL recently clashed in southern Lebanon.

PLO Presence in Al-Biqa' -- PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir said in a press interview reported by QNA that the Palestinian forces will remain in the Al-Biqa' Valley under all circumstances.

Arab Committee-PLO

The committee created by the 12th Arab summit to explain the Arab peace plan to UN Security Council permanent members met near Fes under the chairmanship of Moroccan King Hassan II, Rabat radio reported. After the 15 October meeting, Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta announced that the whole seven-member committee, which includes the PLO, will leave for Washington on 22 October, the radio noted. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat subsequently stated that the PLO will be represented in all the meetings that the committee will hold with the five Security Council members, according to Monte Carlo radio. The PLO leader, who was in Morocco at the time of the Arab committee meeting, returned to Tunis on 16 October and flew to Kuwait early the next day, according to MAP and KUNA reports. Sources cited by the Voice of Lebanon alleged that 'Arafat has been advised to remain in North Africa for the moment because his "positive attitude" toward a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation has endangered his life. Meanwhile, a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine newspaper published in Syria denounced King Husayn's goal of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation and stressed the need for the PLO to remain committed to close strategic relations with Syria, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Broadcasting Developments

Iraq has authorized the establishment of a new Palestinian radio station in Baghdad to replace the "Voice of Palestine" which used to transmit from Beirut before the PLO withdrawal, an Amman source cited by AFP reported. The agreement to create the new service was reached during Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Iraq.

In another development, a Saudi Information Ministry statement broadcast by Riyadh radio announced that Jidda radio would begin a second program on 18 October.

GCC

GCC Interior ministers met in Riyadh on 17 October at the start of a conference aimed at establishing a "collective security pact" to defend the Gulf states against subversion and conspiracies, KUNA reported. Meanwhile, GCC information control officials meeting in Abu Dhabi decided to cooperate in defending their countries against hostile foreign media through a "permanent committee for information control," KUNA noted. The officials recommended that press reports attacking GCC regimes should be banned and called on Gulf newspapers not to publish statements harmful to the GCC states.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- Iraqi military communiques carried by INA and Baghdad radio from 15 to 17 October claimed that over 300 Iranian troops died in fighting in the central battle sector. The 15 October Iranian Armed Forces communique carried by Tehran radio asserted that an Iraqi MiG-23 was downed by Iranian fighters in the western area of Iran, but this was later denied by an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA. According to Tehran radio, Iranian operations in the Meymak region resulted in 150 Iraqis killed or wounded. A commentary on the radio alleged that Iraq has been receiving arms from many countries, including 400 T-55 tanks from Poland.

Saddam Husayn Remarks, Sudanese Visit -- Iraqi President Saddam Husayn told a delegation from the German magazine STERN that a number of Arab leaders are ready to send their armies to assist Iraq in its war with Iran, and that if the war continues, Arab military involvement will "expand and develop," Baghdad radio reported. INA subsequently noted the arrival in Baghdad of a Sudanese delegation headed by First Vice President Staff Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib.

Iran

Following the 15 October assassination of Bakhtaran Friday Imam Ayatollah Hajj Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani, the Mojahedin-e Khalq issued a statement in Paris claiming responsibility for the deed, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio reported. The statement said he was killed in the "sixth suicide operation" against colleagues of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and alleged that he was responsible for many executions. A statement issued by Khomeyni and carried by Tehran radio condemned Ashrafi-Esfahani's killers and viewed his death as a "blow to Islam." Meanwhile, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in remarks carried by the radio that Iran considers France and its government "accomplices" in such terrorist acts because they harbor the Mojahedin leadership. He added that Iranians might take revenge against the French for this position.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 201 *18 October 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

AFP: Soviets Renew Bombing Raids Around Kabul C 1
Dost Meets With UN Secretary General in New York C 2
Sarboland Departs for Tashkent AAPSO Session C 2
Contract for Irrigation Project Signed With USSR C 2

BANGLADESH

Ershad Describes Visit to India as 'Historic' D 1
[THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER 9 Oct]

INDIA

Accord Signed With France for Mirage-2000's [AFP] E 1
Government Not To Import More Wheat From U.S. E 2
Police Put on 'Maximum Alert' in Amritsar [AFP] E 2
Akalis Detained in Punjab To Be Released E 3
5,000 Released E 3

PAKISTAN

Afghan Air Force Plane Crashes in Baluchistan F 1
Haq Discusses Relations With China, U.S., India F 1
President Leaves for PRC, DPRK 17 October F 1
Officials Named to Acting Posts During Haq Trip F 1

IRAN

Rafsanjani Accuses France of Spreading Terrorism I 1
Protest Note Delivered to French Charge I 2
Khomeyni Statement on Bakhtaran Imam's Death I 2
Musavi Issues Statement on Imam's Assassination I 3
Mojahedin: Assassination 'Sixth in Series' I 3
[Free Voice of Iran]
Khomeyni Urges More Active Role for Friday Imams I 4
Khomeyni Cancels Appointments for 15 Days I 5
Cabinet Approves Increase in Defense Budget I 5
Latest Offensive Threatening Iraqi Regime I 6
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communiques 1,080-1,082 I 6
1,080: 15 Oct Report I 6
1,081: 16 Oct Report I 7
1,082: 17 Oct Report I 8
Forces Infiltrate Iraqi Positions in Meymak I 8
Iraqi Planes Strafe Villages in Dehloran, Ilam I 8
Arab Muslims Urged To Pressure Iraq Into Peace I 9
West, East Cooperating To Save Iraqi Regime I 10
Gulf Defense Council Deliberations Viewed I 10
DPRK Delegation Arrives; Leader Makes Statement I 11
Khamene'i Meets DPRK People's Assembly Chairman I 12

AFP: SOVIETS RENEW BOMBING RAIDS AROUND KABUL

BK161255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1144 GMT 16 Oct 82

[By Michel-Martin Roland]

[Text] Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, Oct 16 (AFP) -- Soviet authorities in Afghanistan have launched new bombing raids around Kabul to drive out the population and deprive the resistance of its main bases near the capital, reliable sources close to Afghan resistance fighters said here.

They said that heavy bombardment of villages in a radius of 30 km from Kabul had resumed 10 days ago after a break of several months.

A French traveller, who was near Kabul last Sunday, confirmed Western diplomatic reports that the town of Paghman, 15 km northwest of the capital, and neighbouring villages were coming under massive shelling from land and air.

Tanks, helicopters and MiG fighter-bombers were involved in the attacks on resistance bases in the villages and on surrounding hills, said Jean-Jose Puig, chairman of the "Friends of Afghanistan" associat' n who has just spent two-and-a-half months with the mujahidin of the fundamentalist M lem group Hezb-e Eslami.

In this region, where the mujahidin went into action each night, he said several villages had been abandoned. The same picture was true in Vardak and Lowgar Provinces, west and south of Kabul, which he visited.

"The people have left, harvests have been destroyed by the Soviets and the irrigation systems have spoiled for want of upkeep," he said.

The Afghan resistance fighters, in villages at least a 2-hour walk from the suburbs of Kabul, planned for their nightly excursions into the capital. But coordination was poor among the various groups, some of which belong to rival parties. The mujahidin also seemed badly informed about the positions, arms and numbers of their enemies, Mr Puig said.

According to witnesses, Paghman has changed hands regularly for the past 2 years. Mr Puig said the Moslem insurgents were capable of driving out Soviet-backed Afghan Government forces but unable to retain their hold on the town.

Western diplomatic sources reported some days ago that villages were also being bombed and searched north of Kabul and that harvests there were burned and herds wiped out.

Here in Peshawar, several sources close to the Afghan resistance said Soviet control of Kabul had been undermined significantly during this year.

They said the current Soviet and government offensive around Kabul, following shortly after an earlier offensive in the Panjsher Valley further north, was aimed at breaking the stranglehold slowly being tightened around the capital by the resistance.

The Soviets, they said, hoped to have more control over civilians who had left their villages to swell the already dense population of Kabul.

The Soviets were also hoping that the heavy death toll caused by the bombardments would turn civilians against the resistance fighters, Mr Puig said. But this psychological objective appeared to have failed and the "morale" of the population remained high, he added.

Meanwhile insurgent harassment of Soviet and Afghan positions in Paktia Province bordering Pakistan was being maintained as of Wednesday, Mr Puig confirmed.

Doctors in Peshawar also testified to the heavy fighting and said they were receiving a constant stream of wounded mujahidin seeking treatment.

The Paktia insurgents, grouped essentially along tribal lines, are aiming to seize control of Khost, a garrison town lying in the plain adjoining the Pakistan border.

They have succeeded in cutting communication lines between Khost and Gardez, the provincial capital, and were keeping up pressure on the town's defensive positions, resistance sources here said.

According to Western experts, however, the insurgents are unlikely to gain rapid control of Khost even though incursions into the town have already taken place.

They said the mujahidins' present objective at the approach of winter was to halt supplies of food and firewood to the town.

DOST MEETS WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL IN NEW YORK

LD170654 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs and head of the DRA delegation to the 31st annual session of the UN General Assembly, has met in New York with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. They discussed subjects of mutual interest.

The DRA's ambassador and permanent representative at the United Nations also attended these talks.

SARBOLAND DEPARTS FOR TASHKENT AAPSO SESSION

LD102334 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Abdolmajid Sarboland, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, today left for the Soviet Union at the head of a delegation to attend the 11th session of the Presidium of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization which will be held in Tashkent tomorrow.

At Kabul International Airport he was seen off by Raz Mohammad Paktin, minister of electric power; Dr Faqir Mohammad Yuqubi, minister of education and training; some high-ranking officials of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization; the deputy head of the Protocol Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and a representative of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

CONTRACT FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT SIGNED WITH USSR

LD130725 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 13 Oct 82

[Text] Kabul, October 12, BAKHTAR -- The first complementary contract on the supply of equipment for restoration of irrigation works was signed here today between the Ministry of Irrigation of the DRA and the office of the economic counsellor of the [USSR] embassy in Kabul.

According to this agreement, the construction equipments and transport vehicles worth over two million and three hundred thousand roubles will be provided by the import-export branch of Selkhospromeksport of the Soviet Union for the irrigation networks of eleven provinces in the country.

ERSHAD DESCRIBES VISIT TO INDIA AS 'HISTORIC'

BK161604 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 9 Oct 82 p 5

[Editorial: "A Historic Visit"]

[Text] Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad, the chief martial law administrator [CMLA], who has just returned from a two-day official visit to India, has described the visit as 'historic' and his talks with Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, as 'successful'.

The joint communique which has been issued at the end of the visit shows the extent of the success the CMLA has referred to and its quality. Gen. Ershad was warmly received in India. He has himself interpreted this warmth as sign of India's desire to have 'a very friendly relation' with Bangladesh. This would be in the interest of both the countries. Barriers which have tended, in one way or another, to make this relationship less adequate than the ideal in the past have contributed nothing to the growth of the two developing countries and the welfare of their people, and these are not such as to prove to be insurmountable. What the CMLA and the Indian prime minister have tried to do this week seems to be to identify and make an honest attempt to remove these. The CMLA has said that they have agreed to remove constraints to good relationship between the two countries, adding that he is hopeful about the growth of a very friendly relationship between the two. It is this spirit which is important. This memorable visit of Gen. Ershad would, we hope, mark the beginning of a new era of understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

The specific tasks which have been accomplished during the visit are no less important and reflect the spirit of understanding. An agreement has been signed between the two countries for lease-in-perpetuity of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh. This removes a hurdle which had for long created problems in the concerned sector of the border. A joint economic commission is being set up. The task of the commission would be to explore areas of economic cooperation. The trade imbalance between the two countries is likely to be narrowed down since India has agreed to examine the long term agreements with a view to increasing import from Bangladesh. Extension of time period of credit given to Bangladesh would also be considered. Both the countries have agreed to resolve the issue of delimitation of the maritime boundary in a spirit of good neighbourliness. Talks are going to be held soon at the secretary level for studying additional information exchanged between the two countries on South Talpatty so that the issue can be resolved soon and peacefully. The two countries have also emphasized the need for continuing efforts aimed at securing cooperation between the South Asian nations. A comprehensive programme for cooperation is going to be launched soon by the foreign ministers of the seven regional countries concerned, and both Bangladesh and India are satisfied over the progress.

The agreement on the sharing of the Ganges water scheduled to expire on November 9 has been extended for a period of two more dry seasons. Gen. Ershad has said that the two countries have agreed, for the first time, to try and find out a permanent solution of the problem. The joint river commission would undertake a pre-feasibility study during the next eighteen months. The question of augmentation of the flow of the Ganges water would be approached, during the feasibility study, with an open mind and without any preconceived notion. We consider this to be a significant progress.

As India and Bangladesh become friendlier in days to come, resolving problems would be easier than now. This, we hope, would happen sooner than later.

ACCORD SIGNED WITH FRANCE FOR MIRAGE-2000'S

BK180849 Hong Kong AFP in English 0814 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 18 (AFP) -- France and India have signed an agreement for the supply of 40 Mirage-2000 fighter aircraft fitted with the latest weapons systems including Exocet air-to-sea missiles, officials said here today.

A comprehensive deal for the single-seat supersonic multi-role aircraft was concluded here on Saturday, but officially confirmed by the Defence Ministry today.

First deliveries of the aircraft would begin in October 1984. The last of the 40 Mirages would be supplied to the Indian Air Force by December 1986, the officials said.

Saturday's signing followed a deal worked out earlier this year under which India would buy 40 "ready-to-fly" Mirages and another 120 to be assembled under license.

It was not immediately known if India would go ahead with the local production.

During his visit here last week French Defence Minister Charles Hernu went to the Bangalore factory of Hindustan Aeronautics where the Mirages would be built if the deal goes ahead.

The factory is already assembling Anglo-French Jaguar planes and French Alouette helicopters.

India started looking for an advanced fighter aircraft after the United States agreed to supply the F-16 aircraft to neighbouring Pakistan, defence experts said.

With the introduction of the Mirage-2000, the fighting power of the Indian Air Force will increase significantly. The force has over 615 combat aircraft, including the newly [words indistinct] Jaguar deep-penetration planes and Soviet MiG's.

India will receive the new generation of Matra Super 530-D air-to-air missiles for the planes. The Mirages will also be fitted with the latest internal-mounted intelligence gathering equipment and active jamming electronics devices, the experts who took part in the negotiations said.

It can alternatively carry 11,000 pounds of bomb load on nine external stations -- four beneath the wings and five beneath its fuselage, they added.

A team of Indian Air Force fighter pilots and a group of ground maintenance technicians will go to France early next year for training in handling the Mirage. The team would return after one year of intensive training while another team would stay in France till the supply was completed by 1986, the officials said.

India is also ordering from the French company a full combat simulator for training pilots here.

Meanwhile, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency in a dispatch from London said India was likely to manufacture a new light combat aircraft (LCA) and high-technology air and sea electronic systems with British collaboration.

Quoting British Defence Secretary John Nott, who came here earlier this month, the agency said exploratory talks on such collaboration had already been conducted and would be followed by detailed discussions.

GOVERNMENT NOT TO IMPORT MORE WHEAT FROM U.S.

BK150911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] The government does not propose to import more wheat from the U.S.A. Stating this in the Rajya Sabha today, Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh said an all-time record production of wheat to the tune of over 37.5 million tons is estimated this year. However, nearly 2.5 million tons of wheat has been recently contracted for import from the U.S.A. to build up buffer stocks.

The agriculture minister also told the members that wheat procurement has been very successful during the last 2 years. It is likely to touch about 7.5 million tons this year.

POLICE PUT ON 'MAXIMUM ALERT' IN AMRITSAR

BK151253 Hong Kong AFP in English 1210 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 15 (AFP) -- Police were put on maximum alert today in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar in the troubled northwestern state of Punjab as Sikh extremists threatened further demonstrations and protests by 30,000 jailed Sikhs continued.

Although there was no official report of violence today after yesterday's arson and rioting in jails across the state, jailed Sikhs in Ludhiana and Jullundur are still protesting about jail conditions and refusing jail food.

In Ludhiana there was an unconfirmed report today of inmates beating up their jailors.

Journalist sources in the Punjab said Sikh prisoners from a jail in Nabha some 200 kilometres from Amritsar were squatting on railway tracks and all the New Delhi-bound trains were delayed. They had also succeeded in immobilizing a goods train.

The Sikhs started their campaign courting arrest, a recognised form of social protest in India, in August, and so far 30,000 have ended up behind bars and 19 have died.

The "fill the jails" campaign continues tomorrow with a reported 10,000 followers of the extremist Akali Dal party offering themselves for arrest.

They are demanding autonomy for their strategic state, on the border with Pakistan, and holy city status for Amritsar.

Officials in the state capital, Chandigarh, said paramilitary forces stationed in the strategically sensitive state, bordering Pakistan, had been requested to be on standby in case the Sikh demonstration tomorrow takes a violent turn.

At a Sikh demonstration in the Indian capital Monday four people were killed in front of the Indian Parliament building when police opened fire and another died in jail yesterday bringing the death toll to five.

Officials said tomorrow's march will be lead by the militant Jagdev Singh Talwandi, who has insisted there can be no compromise with the federal government.

Meanwhile, efforts were being made behind the scenes to bring unity to the Akali Dal, which held power in the state until Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party won the election in 1980.

The "Akal takht", the supreme religious and temporal authority of the community, asked all the warring Akalis to unite under the banner of the less militant majority faction leader Harchand Singh Longowal.

Takht directives are never ignored and secret talks have already seen held among Sikh leaders to hammer out the question of unity, informed Sikh sources said.

At least 19 Sikhs have died in the prisons since the "fill the jail" protest started in August.

The latest casualty was 50-year-old Jarnail Singh who died of dysentary in Jullundur, the press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said. The jails in Punjab have a capacity to keep only 6,000 prisoners, officials admitted.

The militant Sikhs set fire to jail property and fought with the staff who were aided by the state police.

Sikhs with swords and clubs stormed the jail wards in a spree of arson and rioting, PTI said. It added that they had reportedly taken over a dozen jail staff as hostages.

In the Indian Parliament an opposition member belonging to the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) created a stir yesterday when he showed the members samples of jail food allegedly given to the Sikh prisoners.

Neelahoita Dasan Nadar took the speaker by surprise and brought out a bunch of rotten rotis (home made bread) and said they were inedible. He said he personally visited the Punjab jails and found the conditions there "terrible, not fit for keeping humans."

The Sikhs number about 12 million and are a majority in Punjab. Several rounds of talks between Sikh leaders and the government have failed to produce any result.

AKALIS DETAINED IN PUNJAB TO BE RELEASED

BK151610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Akalis detained in the wake of the agitation in Punjab are being released. This follows Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's advice to Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh to release them.

The All-India Radio correspondent understands that the state government has issued orders accordingly.

5,000 Released

BK180855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] In Punjab, all the Akali agitators arrested in connection with the Akali morcha [agitation] started vacating the jails all over the state today.

Stating this in Chandigarh, an official spokesman said that over 5,000 agitators had already left the jails. Former Akali Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal, who was in the Ludhiana jail, left the jail this morning.

AFGHAN AIR FORCE PLANE CRASHES IN BALUCHISTAN

BK181020 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] A MiG-17 aircraft of the Afghan Air Force crash landed at 1040 am today, 500 yards off Chaman railway station in Baluchistan. The aircraft overturned and caught fire. According to preliminary reports, the pilot was probably a defector and was killed during the crash landing.

HAQ DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH CHINA, U.S., INDIA

BK161035 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said Pakistan's relations with China are exemplary and the central objective of his forthcoming visit to China is to exchange views as to how the two countries can make their existing relations more meaningful. In an interview with the BBC, he said he would also exchange views with the Chinese leaders on the international issues including the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq war.

About his visits to China and North Korea and subsequent visits to Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the United States and Canada, he said basically these were to keep contact and exchange views with the world leaders to see how best they could bring a better world order and how they could improve their bilateral relations. Answering a question about his visit to the United States, the president said he attached much importance to it, which is a step toward strengthening relations between the two countries. He described them as new relations.

Answering a question on Pakistan's relations with India, the president said India is our neighbor and we are improving our relations with her. We are neither competing with nor are jealous of India. He favored a step by step procedure for improving relations with that country. Asked if Kashmir was a big hurdle in this procedure, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said if intentions were sincere and determination firm, all disputes could be settled peacefully. We do have the same intentions with regard to Kashmir as well. He described as contrary to his principles the suggestion by the correspondent that the control line in Jammu and Kashmir should be recognized as a border between India and Pakistan. The president added: We are considering its use into the Kashmir dispute but it will not be wise to disclose our plan.

About the Afghanistan issue, the president reiterated that it was a political problem to which a political solution was necessary. A dialogue has started under the auspices of the United Nations. He pointed out that Pakistan's vital demand was withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR PRC, DPRK 17 OCTOBER

BK170846 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Islamabad this morning for Beijing on his official visit to the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. During his visit, he will have a detailed exchange of views with Chinese and North Korean leaders on various issues.

OFFICIALS NAMED TO ACTING POSTS DURING HAQ TRIP

BK171020 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Abdul Haleem and Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Chairman Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan will serve as acting president and acting chief martial law administrator respectively during President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit abroad.

RAFSANJANI ACCUSES FRANCE OF SPREADING TERRORISM

LD171626 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit report, the Islamic Consultative Assembly held an open session today. The session began with a recitation of some verses from the holy Koran. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker, spoke on the martyrdom of the fourth martyr in the niche, His Eminence Ayatollah Ashrafi-Esfahani.

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] Our people do indeed realize that today our Friday prayers are a symbol of people's unity, that they are a symbol of people's involvement in society. They do indeed realize that Friday prayers are the cornerstones of this revolution. In the course of their discussions with us [word indistinct] figures always stress that as long as we hold Friday prayers our enemies will be unable to defeat us. Today, these places where people congregate are considered by our enemies as a target. Fortunately, after the tragic incident in Bakhtaran the brave people of Bakhtaran showed quite clearly that such acts defeat the intended purpose. We saw how a multitude of people took to the streets after the sinister explosion and condemned the counterrevolutionaries.

Another point of interest is that immediately after committing this act the hypocrites organization - shoulder to shoulder with Saddam Husayn of Iraq -- launched a series of joint operations. Soon afterwards, Saddam dispatched a wave of jet fighters to our western borders. This particular act leaves no room for any doubt about Saddam's previous knowledge of this act. As for the hypocrites, they immediately announced in Paris that they accept responsibility for this crime. This announcement was to serve two aims: to demonstrate their power and, indirectly, to claim acceptance of responsibility for the acts they commit, implying they were not responsible for the bigger crime they perpetrated in Naser Khosrow Street [recent bomb explosion in Tehran which killed or wounded hundreds]. [passage indistinct]

The Islamic Consultative Assembly issues a warning, first to the French people; second, the French Socialist Party; and, third, to Mitterrand himself. Of course, I am not optimistic that the Socialist Party or Mitterrand will take this warning seriously; but the French people, I hope, will take note. They witnessed that in their country a group, whose leader is living in luxury and security under the protection of the French police and who has a formal office in Paris, has formally claimed responsibility for this crime. What do the French people think? Do they think that our zealous combatants will forget these crimes? Are you [the French leaders] sure that in the future our people will not take revenge on you for this holy blood? Today, we consider you as accomplices of counterrevolutionary terrorists in their crimes; you have proved that your opposition to terrorism is false, that it is only an allegation, and that you oppose terrorism only when it is against yourselves. Today, you spread terrorism; today, you spread anarchy in the world. We shall gain our rights from you when it suits the interests of ourselves, the world and the oppressed.

There is one difference between us: You are like wolves; killing people such as Ayatollah Ashrafi, destroying hotels in downtown Tehran, or exploding bombs at Friday prayer ceremonies and at railway stations. It does not matter to you, but if one day we (?revolt), we will only punish the [word indistinct] traitors. This difference allows you to act in a bestial manner, yet prevents us from acting [word indistinct]. However, you, or people like you -- West Germany, which expelled our beloved student brothers from German schools and, after 5 months of imprisonment, torture and oppression, deported them -- think that the Iranian nation will easily forget these forms of oppression.

However, we hope that God will grant us the competence to make full use of this blood, whose drops are in the service of Islam and the oppressed as [words indistinct]. May God grant us such prosperous death at the end of our [word indistinct] life. Peace and God's mercy and blessing be upon you.

PROTEST NOTE DELIVERED TO FRENCH CHARGE

LD171818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the French Embassy in the Islamic Republic of Iran was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this evening. The under secretary in charge of political affairs at our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave him an official note of protest regarding the French Government's support for terrorists who clearly confess to assassinating great men like the martyred Ayatollah Saduqi and Ayatollah Ashrafi-Esfahani. The Central News Unit reports that part of this note said: An important question is posed to human consciousness and to liberated minds of the world: In a country that considers itself the core of freedom and democracy, how can the leaders and directors of the hypocrites organization, a part of whose criminal operations is the slaughter of innocent and oppressed people and the assassination of Iran's clergymen and government authorities and who in recent interviews and comments have clearly accepted responsibility for assassinating high-ranking and honorable figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including martyr Ayatollah Saduqi and martyr Ayatollah Ashrafi-Esfahani, be supported and welcomed?

Another part of this note said: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran expects France to no longer allow itself to become either a shelter and refuge for terrorists or the command and communications base of these antihuman organizations, allowing them to carry out their conspiracies and criminal acts against the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Obviously, the continuation of such support would be ignoring the rightful goals of the struggling and much-suffering nation of Iran. As a move toward opposition to the Islamic Republic, it would not be ignored.

KHOMEYNI STATEMENT ON BAKHTARAN IMAM'S DEATH

LD151946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Statement issued on 15 October by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in connection with the assassination of Bakhtaran Friday Imam Ayatollah Hajj Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We come from Him and to Him we shall return. How fortunate are those who devote their lives to serving Islam and Muslims.

Ayatollah Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani was one of those people who are a source of encouragement to the crusading young people. His departure is a blow to Islam, causing great lamentation in the clerical community. May God include him among the martyrs in Karbala'. May God damn the murderers of such men. Eternal death to those who have deprived us of such a virtuous man who never even hurt a fly, those who have made themselves even more loathsome and criminal than before to Almighty God and the devoted nation.

Like our other dear martyrs, this eminent man has returned to God. As for our crusading nation and our brave armed forces, they will continue to promote the revolution even more decisively than before. As for those who vainly claim to be supporting the people, those who treat God's creatures in a manner clear to everyone, one wonders to what sort of religion they adhere when they commit such an immense crime. One wonders what authority these people will gain by assassinating a dutiful scholar, an eminent 80-year-old man. One wonders what they gain by such an act.

As for those who shed crocodile tears for the deaths of these criminals, those who complain against the administration of God's decree carried out against these individuals, one wonders what motive they have.

In seeking revenge against the Islamic Republic, is it right to assassinate a virtuous scholar? Is it right to burn children, men and women and the oppressed masses? Is the commission of such crimes the way to take over the government and power? My God! One wonders about the kind of incidents and people our crusading nation faces at this juncture. We are living in a time when Islamic governments are as they are, the mass media are as we witness and the superpowers are as we see them. We are living in a time when evil is presented to the people as good and crimes are presented as peaceful means.

Greetings to the pure souls of our dear martyrs, greetings to the families of the martyrs, greetings to the victims. God bless all the virtuous people.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi-Khomeyni, 15 October 1982

MUSAVI ISSUES STATEMENT ON IMAM'S ASSASSINATION

LD151848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi has issued a statement in connection with the martyrdom of Ayatollah Hajj Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani. The statement, referrring to the services of this estemmed theologian and the insane activities of the hypocrites, says:

Our great nation realizes that the sin of all those martyred at the altar, in the eyes of these misguided savages, is their resistance to America, their holy war to liberate the country and their support for the slogan "Neither East nor West, but the Islamic Republic."

The Government of the Islamic Republic expresses its condolences and congratulations on the martyrdom of the esteemed theologian and holy thinker Ayatollah Hajj Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani to the presence of the hidden imam, peace be upon him, and his just deputy, the imam of the umma', the honorable nation of Iran and the family of that great ayatollah.

Tomorrow, 16 October, will be a public holiday in Bakhtaran Province and a day of public mourning throughout the country.

We promise every person of our great nation that the government will not cease to follow the path of these martyred at the altar and will not stop even for a moment its struggle against world oppression led by America and the subservient Baghdad regime.

[Signed] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi,

MOJAHEDIN: ASSASSINATION 'SIXTH IN SERIES'

GF161630 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] in Paris has issued a statement in connection with announcing responsibility for the revolutionary execution of Mullah Ashrafi-Esfahani. The statement says: Ashrafi-Esfahani, Khomeyni's most powerful representative in western Iran, was killed in the sixth suicide operation against Khomeyni's close colleagues. He was directly responsibile for hundreds of executions in the western cities of the country, including Kermanshah, Ilam and Hamedan, and was one of the main elements responsible for the torture and barbaric murder of the people of Kordestan as well as gathering mercenaries to crush the Kurds. He declared the 1981 Majlis elections in Kermanshah null and void.

This is the sixth in the series of suicide operations to punish the highest and most powerful mullah accomplices of Khomeyni who are enforcing suppression, torture and execution across Iran by their religious orders and are guarded extremely well on Khomeyni's direct orders.

KHOMEYNI URGES MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR FRIDAY IMAMS

LD141520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Oct 82

[Address by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to Friday imams on 14 October -- place not given - announcer-read]

[Text] One of the blessings of this movement and revolution is the holding of Friday prayers. In the early days of Islam Friday prayers and mosques had the same function: Gatherings were a means of overcoming the problems of Muslims and of making decisions about fighting the enemies of Islam. If you were to study the sermons of those days, you would see how much content they had. Unfortunately, traitors gradually set about them, and one tribe of Muslims completely set aside Friday prayers. They were held by other tribes, but in a limited manner and without content. Their (?sermons) usually contained only a few sentences of advice. Most of the seminaries were one-sided, and although the seminarians tried very hard, jurisprudence concentrated on only a few routine subjects. And although the ulema had a great deal of knowledge of judicial issues, they rarely spoke about them. Today we have many problems in that respect.

Another concern of which they tried to deprive the seminaries was the clergy's intervention in politics; they called this a great fault. Maybe there are those now that consider intervening in politics to be wrong. They ask: Why is so-and-so interfering in political issues? And: It is none of our business what is happening in the world. This was (?undoubtedly) a plot that was imposed on us, for the clergy and the divines could not mention politics; some of us even believed this.

Today, it has gone so far that the Muslim lands are plundered by America and the superpowers. These criminals interfere in everything in the world and all the affairs of the Muslims; they send troops. Even in Saudi Arabia -- which was once the center of Islam and the [word indistinct] of the forces of Islam -- it is said that what is happening in the world and what Israel is doing are none of our business.

Mr Musavi-Kho'ini was saying that after a great deal of pressure was exerted on the Friday imams there [Saudi Arabia] to comment on Palestine, they confined themselves to a few words of prayer asking God to save the Muslims from Israel. All the beatings that our pilgrims suffered, the imprisonments and the insults that they suffered were so that Israel would not be mentioned. They were saying that such (?words) are contrary to the teachings of the prophet and Islam. I hope the Friday prayers will regain their noble contents. Other Muslims will also be forced to think of holding them properly, when they realize they have been deprived of this great divine blessing, even if their governments are against them.

Whenever Muslims wanted to go to war, in the early days of Islam, they were (?dispatched) from mosques; and whenever they had something important to do, they discussed it in mosques; and they discussed political issues. We should restore this important content and to be engaged in the affairs of Muslims. Being engaged in the affairs of Muslims is not just fault finding; in addition there are political and social issues and the problems of Muslims. Whoever does not engage in them is no Muslim. You should supervise all the affairs of Muslims and strive for our mosque to be as in the early days of Islam. You should remember that Islam does not approve of isolationism and indifference. These existed in one of the non-Muslim tribes that has unfortunately penetrated some Islam societies.

Thank God, a great development has occurred in our nation. Those youths who were once lured to dens of iniquity, corruption and prostitution have now gone to the fronts and are winning victory and honor for Islam and the country. We are responsible to them.

No revolution ever staged has had this many results within 2-3 years. According to the rules of the world, after every revolution there are thousands of problems, difficulties and famine. But, thank God, these problems do not exist in Iran. Our nation has not staged a revolution in order to fill its stomach. You should point out to the people that the prerequisite of being revolutionaries is to tolerate hardship. Although we have suffered a great deal, is not all the greatness of the revolution worth the suffering? The martyrdom of his eminence the lord of the martyrs [Imam Hoseyn] was graver than all the other losses, but he knew what he was doing, where he was going and what his aims were, and he sacrificed himself and was martyred. We should count on those sacrifices, on what the lord of the martyrs did and [word indistinct], and what we have done. We threw Mohammad Reza out of this country. There are no liquor stores anywhere in Iran. All the corruption (?that existed before) exists no longer. That is a great blessing.

In any case, we are now plagued with a series of complaints from inside and outside. These complaints are worse than wielding arms against us. Some people sit here and there, complaining and niggling in each other's ear. You should point out the problems of the revolution to the people in your sermons and [word indistinct], that we started from scratch and that the damage should be repaired. Thank God, the people are receptive and the young people are proud of martyrdom -- and they are right to be proud -- for they fight for God.

If you listen to the remarks made by some of the heads of state, it would become clear that they are against Islam alone. Some of our intellectuals inside the country are such that they merely do not want the Islamic aspect of the republic. Otherwise, you could call it a democratic republic and they would accept it; but Islamic Republic is heresy for them. That is nothing new in Islam; we should remain patient when faced with these plots and ignore these remarks.

May God (?assist) you in guiding the people, so that they may remain on the scene and preserve Islam.

KHOMEYNI CANCELS APPOINTMENTS FOR 15 DAYS

LD161338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] All appointments to see Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have been canceled for 15 days, coinciding with the mourning period in memory of Aba 'Abdallah Husayn, may peace be upon him. The text of the statement, issued by Imam Khomeyni's office in this connection, is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As in previous years, on the occasion of the mourning period for Aba 'Abdallah Husayn, may God's peace and salutation be upon him, all appointments with Imam Khomeyni, may his lofty shadow remain on earth for a long time, have been canceled for 15 days from Tuesday, 19 October 1982. Those sisters and brothers who have made appointments are asked to bear the above periods in mind when contacting this office.

CABINET APPROVES INCREASE IN DEFENSE BUDGET

LD171732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Cabinet held a session today chaired by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. At this session the current affairs of the country and region were reviewed. The Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati reported on his recent trip to New York, to participate in the annual session of the UN General Assembly, and on his meetings with officials of other countries.

At this session Mr Davudi, the deputy prime minister in charge of institutional affairs of the Islamic revolution, reported to the Cabinet on the meetings of the council for the coordination of these institutions. The report submitted by the Economic Commission was then reviewed and the allocation of an additional 20 billion rials to increase the country's defense budget was approved. The additional fund was put at the disposal of the Ministry of Defense.

LATEST OFFENSIVE THREATENING IRAQI REGIME

GF171724 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Mashhad, Oct 17, IRNA -- Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps [IRGC] Mohsen Reza'i said here today that the occupation of mountainous and strategic areas overlooking Mandali of Iraq during the Muslim ibn'Aqil Operations, started on Oct 1, has put Saddam's rule in grave danger.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with IRNA's reporter, Reza'i said that Baghdad would be in the artillery range of the Islamic combatants with another 40-km advancement of the Islamic defenders, and then no one would dare remain there.

The IRGC commander who is here to perform pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Imam Reza (the eighth imam of the prophet's household) further added that the important and strategic heights were captured with the least casualities by the Islamic combatants and over 350 Iraqis were captured.

Also, he continued, 12 Iraqi tanks, a large number of personnel carriers, anti-aircraft defence guns, and missile launching pads were seized.

Reza'i said that the operations were so rapid and fatal that Saddam faced shortage of forces despite the settlement in three brigades in the region and tried to transfer its forces from Basra and the security forces of Baghdad to meet this shortage.

ARMED FORCED JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 1,080-1,082

1,080: 15 Oct Report

LD151830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,080 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The joint staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to express its condolences and congratulations to Imam Khomeyni and the martyr-nurturing umma' of Iran, especially to the heroic people of Bakhtaran, on the 'Ali-like martydom of the holy theologian Atatollah Hajj Ata'ollah Ashrafi-Esfahani, the imam's representative and the Friday imam of Bakhtaran, to the presence of the hidden imam.

According to reports received, at 1448 today in the region west of Eslamabad, an aggressive Iraqi plane of the MiG-23 type was hit by the fire of one of the fighter planes belonging to the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and was downed.

During the past 24 hours, battle and exchange of fire continued in the western operational regions. On all heights of this region the forces of Islam maintained their firepower supremacy. Yesterday, due to the fire of our combatants on positions in the Mandali region where Saddamist personnel were stationed, two tanks, one vehicle, five ammunition depots, one construction vehicle and one [word indistinct] were destroyed. One of their motor pools was also set on fire.

At 1000 on 13 October, the enemy began a series of intensive activities in the [name indistinct] region but, due to the awareness of the victorious heroes of Islam, the enemy was not given an opportunity to achieve anything.

From 1430 to 1630 on 13 October, a counteroffensive backed by intensive fire on one of the Sumar fronts was launched against the forces of Islam. However, fierce resistance by the forces of Islam foiled the attempt. In this region, two Iraqi soldiers took shelter with the forces of Islam and one Iraqi soldier was captured.

Yesterday, in the operational region in the south of the country, exchange of fire continued sporadically. The positions and fortifications belonging to the aggressive army of Iraq came under our forces' fire in that region. Due to the execution of fire by artillery units, the traffic of enemy military vehicles on the Al-Faw-Basra axis was stopped.

Enemy mortar fire yesterday demolished two houses in Abadan and several other places caught fire.

During the past 24 hours, enemy violations of our airspace in the south and west were confronted with fire from our antiaircraft defense units. The aggressive planes were forced to leave the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

1,081: 16 Oct Report

LD161712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,081 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The outcome of the battle fought by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Saddamist mercenaries during the past 24 hours is brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Yesterday fighting and exchange of fire continued on most of the western fronts of the country. In the Muslim ibn 'Aqil Operation regions, the victorious combatants of Islam consolidated and established their defensive positions and opened fire on enemy positions and (?units) inflicting the following damage on the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries:

-- Setting fire to three ammunition depots;
-- Destroying a motor pool and about 20 vehicles in it;
-- Destroying a tank, a 182-mm mortar position and 4 large trenches.

On other western fronts, the combatants of the ground forces inflicted some damage and casualties on the enemy with their intensive and continuous artillery and mortar fire. On the Marivan front, intensive artillery fire destroyed part of the Iraqi positions in [name indistinct] region, silenced the enemy fire, and inflicted heavy damage and casualties on them. There is no exact information available as to the casualties sustained by the enemy.

On the Musian front, exchange of fire continued and our victorious forces opened heavy-weapon fire on the enemy's armored units and columns, inflicting casualties and damage on Saddamist forces.

On the Abadan front, the gendarmerie heroes returned the fire of Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

By silencing enemy fire, our forces stopped the traffic of the Saddamist forces on the Al-Faw-Basra road.

Yesterday our antiaircraft units repelled air attacks by the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries on the western and southern border towns.

In the battles fought on 12-14 October 1982, three of the selfless heroes of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

1,082: 17 Oct Report

LD171738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Communique 1,082 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The combative forces of Islam, in continuation of their just struggle against the evil Saddamite forces, pursue their battle operations and missions. In the west of the country yesterday, our combative forces fired on enemy positions, destroying a 106-mm gun together with a vehicle and two ammunition dumps of the Iraqi forces and killing several Iraqis.

Exchange of fire continued in the Ilam and Mehran sectors. In the Musian sector, gendarmerie units with their heavy-weapon fire prevented enemy deployment and destroyed a number of their tanks. On the Marivan front, our combatants' fire on enemy positions set alight a vehicle and a number of slit trenches of the aggressive forces in the Panjwin sector.

Also, enemy operations to penetrate (Shenal) heights were crushed and their aggression was immediately foiled.

During exchanges of fire on the southern fronts, while maintaining firepower superiority and returning enemy fire the combatants of Islam silenced enemy fire, crushed enemy positions and fortifications and disrupted the movements of their vehicles and military personnel.

Yesterday the mercenary Saddamite criminals brought the residential areas of Abadan under heavy-weapon fire, wrecking 2 houses, setting a number of points alight and injuring 12 of our dear compatriots in that city.

During battles on 15 and 16 October, 14 ground forces combatants and 6 gendarmerie combatants were martyred. May their memories be dear and their names eternal.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FORCES INFILTRATE IRAQI POSITIONS IN MEYMAK

LD161714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] At dawn today the combatants of Islam attacked the heart of enemy positions in the Meymak region during a courageous infiltration operation and dealt heavy blows to the corpse of the defeated army of Saddam. In these victorious operations, in addition to killing 50 Saddamist mercenaries and wounding 100 others, more than 20 trenches, 2 ammunition depots, several machinegun emplacements, 2 ammunition trucks and 3 observation posts of the Ba'thist Zionist forces of Iraq were set on fire and destroyed.

IRAQI PLANES STRAFE VILLAGES IN DEHLORAN, ILAM

LD171710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Two invading planes of the aggressive regime of Iraq strafed the resisting town of Dehloran at 1000 yesterday. According to IRNA, two heroic citizens of the town were wounded and residential areas received some damage as a result of this savage act.

Also, at 1045 yesterday, the village of (?Chamso) in the district of (?Choar) in Ilam was bombed by aggressive Iraqi planes. As a result of this bestial act, bedouin tribesmen in the village suffered some damage.

ARAB MUSLIMS URGED TO PRESSURE IRAQ INTO PEACE

GF151144 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Sermon given by temporary Friday Imam Emami-Kashani at Tehran University mosque -- live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be with Arab Muslims wherever they are. As time passes, the importance of the heroic operations undertaken by the soldiers of Islam on the western fronts of our country becomes more outstanding. This reflects the difficult circumstances which the infidel regime of Saddam is experiencing.

These military operations made Saddam feel threatened from all fronts, so he tried to (?deny) the latest military campaigns. He launched countercampaigns, but failed in all his plans. So his fears and worries have been aggravated. Then Saddam exerted his efforts to gain [the support] of the agent and reactionary countries in this (?disaster). He called on the Arabs to be committed to the treacherous resolutions of the Fes summit. He also undertook a wide range of activities at the United Nations and in the Nonaligned Movement with the aim of obtaining political gains following his military fiasco.

We realize that the latest attempts of Saddam were designed to work in the direction of rescuing his regime and throne. It is also noticeable that Saddam is undergoing disastrous crises and that the economic and military aid which the Arab countries provide is the best example of the collapse of his regime. The attempts made by Saddam, the reactionary Arab regimes and the resolutions of the United Nations will never rescue Saddam.

Where were all these countries -- which purport to be Islamic -- when Israel launched its savage aggression against Lebanon? Why did they not reach an agreement at that time to form a unified front and deploy their armies to confront Israeli aggression against the Arabs and the Islamic nation? Why are these countries just satisfied with verbal denunciations in the face of Israeli aggression, while they mobilize all their efforts in addition to their huge economic and military aid in confronting the Islamic Republic, which defends justice and Islam? Where were all those who call on us to resort to peace when Saddam launched his savage aggression?

We call for reconciliation and peace; peace is preferable, but we will not accept a peace that is imposed on us. We will not accept humiliation.

The Western press has launched a dirty media campaign against the Islamic Republic to make it look as if we are the cause of the continuation of the war. We call on the aggressor to give in to justice.

O Muslims, pressure the governments so that they will pressure the 'Aflaqist regime to resort to peace, to Islamic peace, and not to work for the interests of the United States and Israel any more. This is the way of Islam and the prophet, may God be pleased with him.

We warn Saddam, the infidel, and the reactionary regimes not to violate the procession of peace, the genuine Islamic peace.

O Muslims, you have to [word indistinct] these attempts and not allow the United States and its surrogates to impose peace that is not commensurate with justice. The fate of justice is determined on the battlefield and the coming days will witness further battles in the war between justice and injustice. This is the lesson the supporters of justice will teach to those who oppose justice.

WEST, EAST COOPERATING TO SAVE IRAQI REGIME

LD161028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary from the "Revolution Guards" program]

[Excerpts] Following the victories of the armed forces of Islam against the Ba'thist forces, the Zionists and imperialists have intensified their actions in order to prevent the collapse of the present Iraqi regime.

One should not think that the Baghdad regime is satisfied to beg from the Western bloc alone. Rather, the critical predicament of Saddam's regime is so extreme that it has recently expanded relations with the Soviet regime of Afghanistan in order to attract more assistance from the Soviet Union. These relations have been expanded to the embassy level.

But, from a military point of view, it can be said that a flood of military assistance from the Eastern and Western superpowers is continuing to pour into Iraq. The Iraqi authorities themselves declared last month that they have received a large number of antiaircraft missiles from France, large quantities of military equipment from Saudi Arabia and Jordan, including 78 vehicles laden with ammunition, and 400 T-55 tanks from Poland, which is one of the Soviet satellites.

Two important conclusions can be drawn from what we said: First, the Iraqi regime is nearing certain collapse and the only reason for its survival is the unlimited aid it receives from the Eastern and Western blocs. Second, the criminal West and the aggressive East are accomplices in cooperating with each other to support Saddam and protect his criminal regime.

GULF DEFENSE COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS VIEWED

GF151350 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 13 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: The six GCC defense ministers are holding talks aimed at finding ways and means of strengthening their [words indistinct] and military cooperation and consolidating their oppressive administrations. Meanwhile, our political commentator has analyzed the GCC defense ministers meeting and has written a commentary to which we now draw your attention:

In the address he delivered during the opening session of the meeting, Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the Saudi minister of defense and aviation, referred to the serious and important developments in the Arab world and the Persian Gulf that had taken place during the 9 months since the last GCC Defense Council meeting. He noted that the developments have had a significant effect on the security and stability of the region.

The call Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud made for a more concerted effort by the GCC members to strengthen cooperation among them has created the following question in the mind of every person: In the face of which basic and important threat has the GCC called on its members to exert concerted efforts to strengthen themselves?

If the members of the sultanate in Saudi Arabia and the forces ruling that country believe that the basic danger threatening the region is the aggressive and world-devouring United States, then it must be recalled that a number of the GCC countries have very sincere and close military, political and economic relations with the United States and wish for the presence in the region of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force units. In fact, it was recently announced that the forces of the administration ruling in Oman, which is a member of the GCC, will be holding a joint military exercise together with the aggressive U.S. Rapid Deployment Force units during the next few weeks.

Apart from this, most of the reactionary administrations which are members of the GCC are strongly defending the illegal interests of U.S. imperialism in the region. And, irrespective of U.S. imperialism's inhuman crimes and action against the Muslims -- particularly the Muslims of Lebanon, Iran and Iraq -- these same countries have maintained their oil exports to the United States.

If, however, the Saudi princes believe that the danger threatening the region is the Zionist Israeli administration with its gradually intensifying attacks against the Muslims, then we must point to the fact that the reactionary and aligned Arab regimes failed to make any move in the face of the disaster in Lebanon. As in the past, they remained silent in the face of the latest disaster that befell Lebanon and failed to make their weight felt.

The reactionary regimes of the GCC that believe that Islam and the Islamic revolution is the basic danger threatening the region, must understand that past experience has proved that modern military ways and means and oppression and acts of violence are rendered totally ineffective by the will of the nations. In ract, the former shah of Iran resorted to such ways and means. However, as witnessed by all [words indistinct], he failed to achieve anything and suffered a major defeat.

The reactionary group which believes the Islamic government and the Islamic Republic of Iran constitute a danger threatening the region must be told the following: The Iranian Islamic revolution regards the question of establishing peace and security in the world, and particularly in the Persian Gulf, as one of the most important basic issues. In fact, it is working in that direction. Its wish to set up a peaceful Islamic government in Iraq by ousting the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime is based on this objective.

In the event the other countries in the region favor tranquillity and peace, the Iranian Islamic Republic -- as the strongest and the largest country in the region, particularly in the Persian Gulf -- is prepared to cooperate with them in the direction of this objective. However, if a number of small regimes in the region wish to make decisions concerning the waters of the Persian Gulf without attaching any importance to the Islamic Republic of Iran, their initiative will undoubtedly be regarded as a conspiracy against the interests of the Muslim Iranian people.

DPRK DELEGATION ARRIVES; LEADER MAKES STATEMENT

LD161940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Hwang Chang-yop, chairman of DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, arrived in Tehran this evening at the head of a senior political and economic delegation and was welcomed at Mehrabad Airport by Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani.

According to an IRNA correspondent, the visit is at the invitation of the speaker of the Majlis. Hwang Chang-yop is accompanied on this trip by the DPRK finance and external economic affairs minister, the under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a member of that country's Supreme People's Assembly.

Hwang Chang-yop is reported to have said: We are very pleased that the Iranian nation, led by Imam Khomeyni, has achieved impressive successes in foiling the conspiracies of foreign and domestic enemies and in defending its revolution. We consider these successes as our own. I always wish you victory and honor in these very difficult struggles. He then added: Both of us are fighting on the same front against imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism. The bonds between us are very strong and are unmatched throughout the world.

The report adds that in a statement issued on the arrival in Iran of the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, while expressing profound gratitude for the invitation extended to the delegation by the Government and the Majlis of the Islamic Republic, the aim of the visit has been outlined as further expansion of relations and cooperation between the two countries, adding: The DPRK and Iran, being members of the Nonaligned Movement, have established closer rapport through coordinated measures against U.S. imperialism and other imperialists as well as common struggles aimed at creating a new society.

The statement adds further: During this visit we hope to have the opportunity to witness the great victories achieved by the Iranian people through their efforts in thwarting continued aggression and interference by imperialists, safeguarding the fruits of the revolution and materialising the country's independent growth, under the sagacious leadership of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

KHAMENE'I MEETS DPRK PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

LD181046 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 18, IRNA -- President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i Sunday night said that all sorts of threats are futile in the way of Iran for its struggle against imperialism.

The president and visiting chairman of the People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Hwang Chang-yop, met and conferred this evening.

During this meeting, which was also attended by a number of other DPRK officials, Chang-yop said that he was greatly impressed by the achievements gained by the Islamic revolution despite the conspiracies of the U.S. imperialism. He added that the Islamic Republic was a country who was abiding by the principles and ideals of the Non-aligned Movement and that it was putting its efforts in implementing its principles.

At the end of his statements Chang-yop also conveyed the invitation offered by President Kim Il-song for President Khamene'i to visit the DPRK.

The president said that the Islamic Republic has established friendly relations with the countries who had stood seriously against the U.S. .

Khamene'i also stressed that all countries who followed an anti-imperialist policy should be sensitive towards the Palestinian issue. "If the U.S. fails in extinguishing the Palestinian fire (in subsiding the Palestinian Revolution), this would be a great victory for the region and the anti-American front of the progressive countries," he said.

President Khamene'i said that our movement was still on despite the facts that the Islamic revolution is facing U.S. inspired policy in the Persian Gulf region.

Neither our political and economic needs nor various types of military threats could stop us from going in the way of anti-imperialism, the president said.

He added that he believed that the Middle East and the Persian Gulf region were the weak points for the U.S. and hoped that with the help of God, all U.S. inspired policies in this part of the world would be defeated.